

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of delivering a message using a wireless communications network voicemail system comprising:

a calling party requesting voicemail retrieval notification;

leaving a calling-party-to-called-party voicemail message on the wireless communications network voicemail system;

retrieving the voicemail message by the called party;

the wireless communications network generating a voicemail retrieval notification acknowledgement message indicating that the called party has retrieved the calling-party-to-called-party voicemail message; and

sending a the voicemail retrieval notification acknowledgement message to the calling party ~~indicating that the called party has retrieved the calling party to-called party voicemail message.~~

2. (Original) The method defined in claim 1, wherein the voicemail retrieval notification acknowledgement message is a Short Message Service (SMS) message and the sending step further comprises sending the SMS message to the calling party terminal.

3. (Original) The method defined in claim 1, wherein the voicemail retrieval notification acknowledgement message is a voice message sending step further comprises sending the voicemail message to the calling party terminal.

4. (Original) The method defined in claim 1, wherein the voicemail retrieval notification acknowledgement message is a voicemail message and the sending step further comprises sending the voicemail message to the calling party's voicemail.

5. Canceled

6. (Currently Amended) The method defined in claim 1 5 wherein the requesting step further comprises:

 sending a retrieval notification prompt to the calling party; and
 receiving a retrieval notification response from the calling party indicating that the calling party is requesting voicemail retrieval notification.

7. (Original) The method defined in claim 1 5 further comprising:
 setting a retrieval notification indicator indicating that a voicemail retrieval notification acknowledgement is to be sent to the calling party after the retrieving step.

8. (Original) The method defined in claim 1 further comprising
 associating calling party contact information with the voicemail message.

9. (Original) The method defined in claim 1 further comprising:
 determining the retrieval date and time when called party retrieved the calling-party-to-called-party voicemail message; and
 including the retrieval date and time in the voicemail retrieval notification acknowledgement message.

10. (Original) The method defined in claim 1 further comprising:
 including the called party phone number in the voicemail retrieval notification acknowledgement message.

11. (Original) The method defined in claim 1 wherein the voicemail retrieval notification acknowledgement message includes the date and time the calling party left the voicemail message in the leaving step.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of delivering a message using a wireless communications network comprising:

sending a voicemail retrieval notification acknowledgement voice message to a calling party indicating that a called party has retrieved a calling-party-to-called-party voicemail message.

13. (Currently Amended) A system for voicemail retrieval notification for a calling-party-to-called-party voicemail message comprising:

means for enabling a calling party to request voicemail retrieval notification;
a wireless communications network element for generating a voicemail retrieval notification acknowledgement message indicating that the called party has retrieved the calling-party-to-called-party voicemail message; and

means for sending the a voicemail retrieval notification acknowledgement message to the calling party ~~indicating that the called party has retrieved the calling-party-to-called-party voicemail message.~~

14. (Original) The system defined in claim 13 further comprising:
means for leaving a calling-party-to-called-party voicemail message on the wireless communications network voicemail system; and
means for retrieving the voicemail message by the called party.

15. (Original) The system defined in claim 13 further comprising:
means for sending a voicemail retrieval notification acknowledgement message to the calling party indicating the time and date when the called party retrieved the calling-party-to-called-party voicemail message.

16. (Original) The system defined in claim 13 further comprising:
means for sending an SMS message to the calling party, wherein the voicemail retrieval notification acknowledgement message is an SMS message.

17. (Original) The system defined in claim 13 further comprising:
means for sending a voicemail message to the calling party, wherein the voicemail retrieval notification acknowledgement message is a voicemail message.

18. (Original) The system defined in claim 13 further comprising:
means for sending a voicemail message to the calling party, wherein the

voicemail retrieval notification acknowledgement message is a voice message.

19. (New) The system defined in claim 13 wherein the means for enabling a calling party to request voicemail retrieval notification further comprises:

means for sending a Retrieval Notification Prompt message to the calling party.

20. (New) The system defined in claim 19 wherein the means for enabling a calling party to request voicemail retrieval notification further comprises a voicemail system obtaining a voicemail retrieval notification acknowledgement message delivery preference from the calling party.

21. (New) The system defined in claim 19 wherein the means for enabling a calling party to request voicemail retrieval notification further comprises means for setting a Retrieval Notification Indicator indicating that a Voicemail Retrieval Notification feature has been activated for the calling-party-to-called-party voicemail message.